AN EVENTFUL STORY.

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AUTHOR OF "THE ROMANCE OF WAR," "THE BLACK WATCH." "FAIRER THAN A FAIRY," ETC., ETC.

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CHAPTER XXXIX .- A DISCOVERY. had got matters just as he wished them to be, and that he held and hoped to play a withing card, it chanced that on the very could not account. day after Melanie had permitted him to se, an unforeseen event occurred.

usual, a little before breakfast time, from matter of Melanie's correspondence: the village postoffice and placed in the hands of Mr. Grimshaw, who alone possessed the key thereof.

The Indian mail was due, bat poor preceding day when tortured by her un- worse!" cle's taunts, having ceased to hope for in its appearance, but busied herself with the coffee equipage till her uncle drew forth an imporhim to knit his heavy, grizzled eyebrows; and it certainly excited the curiosity of herself and her brother Reggie, who had been wheeled over in his chair from the Hall that morning, and was most oppor-

The packet was addressed to the latter as "Lieutenant Reginald Talbot, R. N.," which made his hollow cheeks mantle jesty's Service."

Reginald opened the unexpected packet, without examining the Indian postalmarks thereon, and the first object he addressed to Melanie-a letter which Lonsdale had taken the precaution to put also in an orderly-room envelope to baffle Uncle Grinshaw, whom he had begun, but most unwillingly, to saspect at

It was the letter he had written, half fection, his hopes and wishes for their mutual future, his fears and anxiety for herself and her happiness at home, amid all she had to contend with; his sorrow and dismay that he had never received even one letter from her; and Meianie read on and on, and read and re-read the words again, forgetful of those who watched her-forgetful of all but the loving letter she held in her tremulous heart. Angers, and oblivious of the little gifts that accompanied it, as Reggie drew them forth-the Brahmin charm for himself, the gold dog-whistle for Dick the massive gold coin for Uncle Grimshaw, the bangles and necklet for Melanie herself, who, in her energy and absorption, began in a low and broken voice that part of the letter which enumerated the many miss.ves he had posted at various points, and as none of them had been returned to him by the postal authorities, he concluded that they must have reached their destination and been tampered with there, and added that he was determined to put the matter before Her Majesty's Postmaster-Gen-

Meanwhile, the face of Uncle Grimshaw, who wiped his bald and shiny pate with a silken bandana, was a picture of confusion, as he found that he had been thus unexpectedly beffled in his selfish hopes, when they seemed to have been so near fruition; that he had been thus discovered, and confounded, in a series of acts that were actual felonies-the suppression or destruction of letters. But Melanie, absorbed in what she read, with eyes that were brimming and blinded with tears of joy, did not note his face; but Reggie did, and drew his deductions

So did even Dick, who joyousty blew his gold whistle repeatedly, and seemed to be wholly intent on balancing a piece of toast on Bingo's nose, while secretly considering where to procure another hedgehog for his kind uncle's behoof, as the wasp's-nest had proved rather a troublesome affair for the household gen-

The keen, dark and searching eyes of triumph, scorn and inquiry combined.

utterly incomprehensible!" exclaimed necessity for saying something.

Bingo?" said Dick in a low voice heed- late a poor devil so!" he would add. dog whistle.

asked Mr. Grimshaw, in a rather broken and of the affair of Melanie and the Baro voice, ignoring the impudence of Dick, ne; for Dick was a sharp little lad, and more than ever. and thinking of the long ears attributed to | tuil of observation beyond his years.

dispatch box; chuck it overboard!" re- spoil of autumn lay thick and damp, the plie Reggie, quite coolly. "Also, that in latter gave more than one wistful glance chair of his brother, and both went off future Melanie should post her letters by at the little square tower of Stokencross,

inferred, and while his heart swelled abode was close thereby.

"He knew himself to be a double ery." traitor, and cowered in his own sight, "Things are never so bad that they and in the sight of all, except his coadju- might not be worse, Reggie," said tor, Mrs. Chillington, when they met, and Dick, philosophically; "think of some felt that he had lost all the little self-re- poor folks." spect he had possessed since he left the dingy recesses of Birchin-lane, where, we are at that man's mercy; but it does

like many others, he had learned "Th' t'tis the noblest work of man To fill his pockets if he can;

That honour's but an empty nam -. And wealth is better far than fame." pretty bold front, if it was possible, now; might be sad wa ching one's decay, month

have

and also assuming a virtue, though he by month, if one had aught to live for." "I do not understand your impertinent | Dick; "you have Melanie and me."

imputations!" said he, sharply, to Reggie, whom he now loathed more than hand, I hope she will have no more worry ever. "I have usually played my part in about Sir Brisco now " the game of life well and openly." "Yes, but you have won by tricks there can't be much of the romantic rather than by honours, uncle," was the about him. Why, he is older than Uncle

contemptuous reply. "You are an insolest beggar, and for- | cricket ball." get that you all three subsist upon my bounty!" exclaimed Mr. Grimshaw, ob- his years, as a man of the world, he must

it almost maddened him.

"We are a happy family-we are!" they can get nothing better. shouted Dick, tossing a slice of his uncie's toast to Birgo.

However, a load of growing doubt and and the rabbits, too, are so thick heremorlification had been lifted from the abouts." proved futile in the end; and that it would about their nature. be used no more, by her at lesst.

And now it seemed most strange that brother. su picion of this systema ic and continued treachery had never occurred to her be- der, and then they doat on blades and

Reggie returned to the hall, where he was now he is after another." Now when Uncle Grimshaw thought he aware that he had to keep his own counreference to his host, for whose elation, alarm.

wring from her the species of half-prom- had said to him, ere he left Rose Cottage his rear quarters and short hind-legs, his The dispatch-box had been brought, as when he sought to excuse himself in the bole, where he was busily engaged tear-

no for good-can excuse a lie, for a lie is a brief space to clude his sharp teeth | watching his opportunity, caught him by for a few minutes, and then, with a start, always sinful in i saif, and every time you and gain a little respite from destruction. suppressed a letter you told a falsehood | Dick shrilly blew the golden whistle, Melanie, despite what she had said on the in effect, and was thus guilty of it, and his recent gift from Lonsdale. Half

Melanie's horror of her uncle was now but another did. letters, seemed to take no interest intensified. She had learned how sys- "Squire Pugwash, by Jingo!" extant-looking packet, the size and address mortification at the non-arrival of letters portance, the wealthy city man, who had tween them, and without ceremony often dogs had remained beside their masof which seemed to puzzle him, and cause which he had been pitilessly committing recently purchased lands adjoining those

What hope could she have of him- time in rendering himself obnoxious to what faith in him-for the future? And peaceful Sir Brisco and everyone else. who were so helpless, she dared not defy of game; not that he was "a shot" him-

with pleasure, as he thought of the past desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desire for freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all unknown desired freedom grew strongly in her on his estate, as his keeper, all un time; and it was, moreover, enclosed in mind; but would there be any happiness to him, was a sleeping partner in an active the part he had borne in the conflict, a large envelope inscribed "On Her Ma- in that freedom when her two dear ones firm of poschers, who catered for the Bingo prudently kept close to her skirts as the day stole slowly on she looked were left behind her and to his mercy? Leadenball market.

drew forth was a long and bulky letter that not a moment might be lost, took 'Squires aspect, like his wrath, was her way through the now damp and slarming. despairingly, in Fort William on the night earnestly to keep the pages spotless and Couthie, F. R. C S, in his lecture on the Person of the Pe before the embarkation of the Bengal smooth, they were blistered and blotted London degeneration, is inclined to deny with all his latest with the terms of effection that would fall his existence. in spite of her.

he gets it," she thought, as with a prayer and drab-colored gaiters, and a huge slit, and heard it fall into the box below- brated statesman, and a resplendent scarthe first stage upon its long, long jour- let satin tie, with a brilliant pin.

unselfish nature, but whose life was said. just then-she alleged-made some- "Look 'ere, you fellows," he thunderwhat of a burden to her, by ed, in his most bullying tone, "do you her mother's advice and hints know whose property you're a-poaching on economy and future household man- and a-trespassing on?' agement, as if the wife of a royal hussar had to think of such things! But then, Talbot, as his hollow cheek crimsoned economy, and was even then eking out a start in his wheel-chair.

selection of hat bands and funeral scarves. | whom I knows of, and his cur. I'll have Certainly, with all her attractions, it it shot and send you both to jail. If not was evident that Amy would never be- for game, what was he and that 'ere dog | come what is deemed a "fine lady," or a seeking under my 'edges? And as for shine among the stars of the London that wheel-chair of yours, I believe it is firmament; but Melanie as she listened all a sham and only a wehicle for carrying envied Amy that she had a mother to off game. Look at these rabbits." guide her; a mother she could turn to in her troubles, when they came.

Ere Melanie, loth to leave the trio of kind and affectionate friends, had ended jurious remarks, which galled him more a very protracted visit to the vicarage, a than those of his uncle had doce. catastrophe had occurred at home between her Uncle Grimshaw and her Dick. brother Dick, an event which her heart had long foreboded; and now, since the expose of the dispatch box, the mind of the former had become filled with a with something of his quarter-deck greater amount of rancor, selfishness and tone. hatred than ever.

CHAPTER NL -PLANTAGENET PUGWASH, Dick, with a grin; "isn't the old hunks in

Reginald Talbot, we have said, had rewith a very unmistakable expression of this recent affair on his return to Ravensbourne Hall.

"Now, Dick, shove off, my boy," said he, lapsing into his nautical phraseology Mr. Grimshaw, victously rasping up his and setting in motion his self propelling side tufts, feeling, in his desperation, a chair, which, in his moments of cheerfulness, he was wont to aver made him "So incomprehensible that it is a mat- almost independent of limbs. "Yet being ter for the police; don't you think so, excluded from all kind of sport does iso-

less of the savage glance darted at him by | And now, as Dick with kindly good his uncle, whose nerves he further upset by | will pushed his chair from behind, with a shrill and protracted blast on his new | Biogo gamboling and barking beside him, he brothers talked at intervals, but in a "What would you suggest, Reginale?" disjointed manner, of the recent discovery aren't no gentleman, and I shall appear an old and somewhat crazy basket chair municated to a powerful motor working

As he wheeled his helpless brother "I would suggest the abolition of the through the green lanes, where the fallen many it jurious taunts and epithets. then tipped with golden sunshine, for he | unfortunately for the former, he ha not |

with rancour at and dislike if not positive | "Life is hard on some people," said he, lieutenant of the county. hate of the speaker, he wished nimself, pursuing his own thoughts. "To me it just then, at the North Pole, Jericho, or seems difficult to think that whatever is. is best, and to be thankful for one's mis-

"With us they are bad enough, when me no good to know that others are wretched too-our dear Melanie especially. Well, well, I may soon That broken faith and friends betrayed be out of it. I can see the sunshine are nought compared with rosp rous trade; through my hand, it has grown so thin," he added, dropping it upon the apron of his chair, as if the mere exertion of holding Yet there was a necessity for assuming a it up proved too great for him. "I

> "Don't talk in this fa hion," entreated 'Since Lonsdale's letter has come to

> "Sir Brisco is a kind old fellow: but Grimshaw, whose head is as smooth as a

"No," -aid R ggie, with a smile; "at

room, galled by a saucy "Houp is!" from "Not quite; but it is a rare place for your leisure hours as a vulgar poacher on hedge-hogs," replied Dick, who, intent the property of Mr. Pugwash, and degrade Accustomed though he had been for on revenging their united wrongs on their me in the eyes of that gentleman!" long to the cruel and injurious tauets of oppoxious relative, paused now and then his uncle, Reginald Talout remembered in his task of wheeling the chair to inhis uncle, Reginald Talout remembered in his task of wheeling the chair to in-the epsulet es he had won and worn, and vestigate the borders of the path, in "For this the cur will be shot or and whirled to and fro the heaps of dead, after the drop has fallen. Why are the his heart beat painfully with resentment search of one, though Dick knew right drowned!" exclaimed Mr. Grimshaw, brown leaves; and she could see the wild hands tied? Simply because, if they are declare it a "Daisy." "Racket" olgan and sorrow at the utter helplessness of well such were chiefly to be found at giving the terrier a hearty kick. "Who rabbits scudding about among the bushes, not, they find their way to the throat at For sale at Wells drug store.

himself and his patient sister. Just then night, when they crawl about is search of is to pay the license for him-you, a scared by the red gleams of sheet lightfood-frogs, slugs and field-mice, when poscher?"

"Keep Bingo to neel," said Reggie. "I hope he won't come to grief; the hares,

heart of Melanie by the discovery of that | "The little shower that fell this mornmorning, and she felt thankful that the ing has brought the rabbits from their institution of the despatch-box had burrows," replied Dick, who knew all

"Why the shower?" asked his sailor "it renders the herbage moist and ten-

"By Jove, if any of the keepers are selabout the recent denouement, with about !" began Reggie, with some

caused by Mr. Grimshaw's last letter, he | A rabbit lay quivering, but dead, among the fallen leaves close by, and meantime like the devil than ever. But stung to the soul by what his uncle | nothing was seen of bob-tailed Bingo but young Talbot said to that gentleman, front me bers being buried in a sand; ing out the soil in search of a lively 'Can any motive excuse a siu? No, sir; rabbit, which, by cunningly slipping no motive, however good-and this was backward and forward, had contrived for

buried in the sand, Bingo heard it not, tematically cruel he could be and had claimed Dick, with a little aspect of iety, misery, occasional tears and bitter them swelling with wrath and vulgar im-

of Ravensbourne Hall, and had lost no

yet, for the sake of Reggie and Dick, who | Squire Pugwash was a great preserver self, but some of the admirers of his She would leave Rose Cottage and daughter Aurora-or Miss Harcarar, as work at anything for a stipend, however he called her-were, or thought they

Yet it was with a bright and happy ex- Feared and hated by the peasantry and whip. pression rippling all over her sweet face, the poor, distrusted, yet scrupulously Dick was covered with discoloured thought of her boy and where, when, or that early the same forencon, Melanie, obeyed by his tenants and servants, the

dreary November lanes to the village | Squat in figure, over-fed and paunchy, postoffice, in order to despatch with her with sloping shoulders, a receding chin, own hand-as Reggie had suggested-the and nose of no particular kind, he had sunny hair, as she had often done in intague Lonsdale; and though she had tried | scents, though a recent savant, Mr. James | swelling with rage and indignation.

He wore a pot hat, a short black sur-"It may be weeks upon weeks before tout, with large, loose, check trousers on her lips she dropped it into the parrow stick-up collar, like that worn by a cele-

Now, the retired scapboiler had that Then she turned away to seek her morning, for the first time, seen himself friends at the vicarage, with-as we have | recorded in that resplendent tome, "The said-a load of sorrow lifted off her County Families of the United Kingdom,' as: 'Pugwash, Plantagenet, E-q. Full of her letter and her presents-the of Stokencross Priory, son of the gold necklet and bangles, which were late Pugwash, E-q, of Battersea, by beautifully chased-Melanie hastened to his wife, Angelina Wobbel; JP, D.L, show them-her newly-found treasures- and magistrate for the county;" and young, girl-like, to Amy, who, now that swelling with the memory of all this, he her own anxieties were over, was merry came upon "those fellows poaching on and rosy as ever, and in all the beauty of his lands"-his lands-he, a man of fabuperfect nealth and activity, with a sweet lous wealth, and ditto pedigree, as many

"Poaching, sir?" exclaimed Reginald

old Mrs. Brendon was a woman of rigid | with anger, and he made an involuntary winter mantle of black corded silk from a "Yes; especially this young willan,

"Rabbits are vermin; don't heed him Reggie," said Dick scornfully. But his brother writhed under the parvenu's in-"Who is this insolent fellow?" he asked

"Fellow! I'd have you know, sirbegan the squire in a thundering time. "Who the devil is he?" asked Reggie,

"Old Pugwash, the soapboiler," replied

2 Wax?" "Is not this part of Ravensbourne Park, Reggie were turned upon his kinsman selved to keep his own counsel about all sir?" asked Reggie controlling his wrath "It is not-but my land-mine, sir!"

path a public one " "It is private, as you will learn to your

cost if I catch you here again " "Here is my card." said Reggie, as his thin hands trembled with uncontrollable

The "equire" glanced superciliously at her. the bit of pas eboard and thrust it into his waistcoat pocket. "Rose Cottage," he muttered; "Lieu-

He continued to bluster and storm

But Dick sharply wheeled away the with an air of contempt and defiance; but, Esq, justice of the peace and deputy fall.

CHAPTER XLI -RUN AWAY FROM HOME couple of dead rabbits-the same identi- what was morbid or terrifying. cal animals slain by Bingo-lying ominously on the table in the hall, and found that his uncle had been the recipient of a and look forth into another quarter, for most threatening message from the it was a source of keen agony to think equire, to whom he had looked up with that, under the circumstances, her darlno small respect and awe, as the owner of great wealth and city influence, and whose name was as a tower of strength when messured by the standard of Birch-

Now, Mr. Gideon Grimshaw only wanted an excuse-"a hair to make tether of" -for venting upon poor Dick all the rage and spite which then possessed bim, so the whole episode came in excellent time for his purpose, and turning up his cost sleeves, assuming his most bullying air, and armed with a heavy hunting-whip, he lost no time in confronting the delin-

quent the moment he entered the house. His pale eyes glistened like those of a as he glared at his nephew, and said in a low and concentrated voice that sounded unpleasantly like a hiss:

"So, sir-so, sir! Not content with Hylous just then of the money the father have got beyond all illusion, and takes to idleness, and, under tour contumacious of "all three" had left to his care for love-making as he takes to his dinner sister's advice, declining to take such emthem-money squandered and gone-a- But where are you steering to, Dick? ployment as I can find you are fit for, in a he started from the table and left the This is not the nearest way to the hail." shop or as an office boy, you must fill up

"Poscher?" repeated Dick, filled with "Well, better be even that than a thief." always the wind

"A thief, you young rascal?" commits a felony, as Reggie told me." replied Dick, who was a brave boy, and had no heart for her daily tasks. Her his blood was up now.

governable, Mr. Grimshaw grasped him panes for the crumbs she was went to and uplifted the whip with the other. "Address me in that manner again, evinced to Bethia the terrible suspense of

ore. stalks of grass. Houp la!" cried Dick, and by all that is holy, I'll flog you the night and morning.

Though sorry to leave her just then, "that wretched dog has pinned one, and within an inch of your life!"

The past day had been

"Flog away; you are coward enough to do it, I dare say."

you feel now?"

and pain, yet bravely repressing his tears. When she herself was but a child. Mr. Grimshaw raised the whip again,

with a sharp and savage grip.
This served but to add fuel to Mr. ash away at the shrinking and panting unslept in. boy, till an old servant who had nursed | She thought that if aught serious had been, in witnessing, unmoved, her apx- alarm, as there suddenly stood before him, Bethia Barlow, a stout and active occurred to Dick his terrier would have woman, on hearing the noise, rushed be- returned; but Bethia reminded her how grasp d Mr. Grimshaw's right arm.

> How dare you?" she excisimed.
> "Dare?" questioned the other through his clenched teeth.

"Yes. What would his dead mother,

"Msster-master-hold your hand.

your own sister, think of all this?" Grimshaw, in the plenitude of his power and swing of his fury just then,

welts and weals. He smarted in every timb, and panted rather than breathed, so severely had he been handled; but not even before old Bethis, who kindly drew household frugality, there was food his head on her breast and stroked his enough, and to spare, at Rose Cottage. letter which she had written swiftly, lov- those goggle and protruding gray eyes fancy, would be let a tear be wrung of a dreary English autumn were passing ingly, and full of explanations to Mon- said to belong to the cockney of three de-

going away at last, Bethia. I have thought it over many times. I leave the house and never, never set foot in it

"No, no, no, Master Dick," exclaimed Bethia, caressing him again.

"I shall, though!" said the boy. "Don't speak thus, dear Master Dick Don't say or think such a thing," coninued the old nurse, with tears in her yes; "wait till Miss Talb t-wait till our sister Melanie returns."

"Poor Melanie!" said Dick, with anther dry sob in his throat. "But her reurn can make no difference to mr. I am oing at last, I say."

"Won't you tell me where?" "No, Bethia." "Wby?"

"Because I don't know myself. I only wish to get away from here-away as far s possible," replied Dick, wilfully and "You will be lost, my poor boy."

"Not at all," said Dick, sturdily. Ha Mayne Reid, Gustave Aimard and others, not to have perfect confidence in himself, as she went to bed. as all the boy heroes therein, after facing innumerable perils and adventures, had always risen to fame and fortune. But. withal, his effectionate heart was sore as he thought of the gentle Melanie and poor nelpless Reggie.

After a time, when he thought himself locomotive purposes has now stood the unwatched and unseen, he took Bingo in test of three months' experience in the ais arms, as if to protect his faithful fourooted friend from further harm, and stole out of the house just as evening began to close, to wander, as Bethia thoughts that time the cars have run 14,000 miles he would do, till the dinner hour came. and carried 140,000 passengers without But Dick Talbot had gone forth into the

And when the frugal meal was spread ruption or accident incident to regular by gold Bethia, and Uncle Grimshaw, sul horse car services. The engines drawing lep as Ajex took his sest at the table, the Melanie then learned allthat had occurred property of the Elieson Electric Comin her absence, and felt inexpressibly pany, headed by the Earl of Galloway,

shocked and concerned. Still she thought that Dick must ere system extensively on public notice until ong appear, and hour by hour she it had stood the test of sufficiently length watched and waited. The sun began to ened experience to prove its practical set-the dull and sombre sun of the clos- utility. The invention of Mr. C. R. ing days of November, and yet there Eteson is equally applicable to use for "We did not know, and thought the came no sign of the absent boy, and land or water locomotion. Yesterday a when the night shadows began to fall and | number of gentlemen representing fore gn deepen, Melanie thought of the woods, embassies in this country, the admiralty, the pends and meres that were in the vi- the scientific world and commercial incinity of Rose cottage, and a vague, un-terests, met by invitation of the company speakable, yet dreadful presentiment of at the depot near Stratford church, emotion—the conviction of his own utter impending evil—or evil that might have and were conveyed by the electric already come to pass-crept coldiy over car over its ordinary route. The en-

An emotion of guilt, perhaps of shame, charged at the depot and fitted in a small but certainly not compunction, made car carriage constructed to harmoniz-Uncle Grimshaw at that time rather tastefully with the car which it draws epant R N -well, lieutenant or not, you avoid her, and Melanie threw herself into From the accumulators energy is comto the law after all," he added, bullying in the recess of a window, and resting on cog wheels revolving in one direction, an elbew on the sill, looked out but fitted with reversing gear controlled with far away and yearning gaze upon the by a simple lever. Nothing is more please. with growing fury and vulgarity, using fast darkening night and black, tossing striking in the traveling of the branches of the autumnal trees, lonely, engine and car than the ease with auxious, worn with tears and terror which motion is given or withdrawn, about her brother-dear, droll Dick, who and the promptness and precision could have no friend with him but his pet of the stoppages. Economically the savdog; and to add to the cheerless gloom, a ing over the notorious wear and tear and Mr. Grimshaw felt keenly all this reply knew that the roof of Amy Brendon's heard the last of Plantagenet Pugwash, genuine English drizzle was beginning to expensive keep of horses is claimed to be

Melanie at this juncture had no one of be readily practicable to place the elecwhom she could seek counsel. Their trical power within the car itself, but, uncle, their only kinsman, was the cause even as it is, the engine occupies no more When, about two hours after, Dick re- of her present misery, and old Bethis space on the road than a pair of horses, urned home, he saw, with some alarm, a Barlow was helpless to suggest aught but and is more tractable and less alarming

Often she started from her seat and locomotives in operation in some of the hurried to the entrance door, to listen large towns. ing Dick, her winsome, blue eyed and golden haired brother, was now a wan | with increasing frequency, jocular specuderer, perhaps, in that darkness lations on the painfulness or painlessness and gathering rain; and more than of death by hanging; and it reminds me once she was on the point of issuing of an interview I had with the late Dr. forth to seek him in person, and was Jewell on this subject at the time that only restrained by the strong hand, near- Guiteau was hanged. This eminent by, of Berthia Barlow, but not by the sneers of Uncle Grimshaw as to who was vous system insisted that death by hang-

So the silent night were on. Lonsdale's massive gold bangles-even the neck was not broken, was painless. his letter, perhaps-were forgotten by Where the axis and atlas are pulled her. Every few minutes she looked at spart, he said the rupture or even the

cold or fever.

Dick!" she wailed in her heart.

once or twice the door-beil rang.

ning-for it was a weird night indeed. Was that the scraping, the whine of the anger on hearing Blugo's yell of pain. terrier Bingo? No, it was but the wind-

Long before the lagging autumnal sun "Yes; who steals letters, and thereby had flushed with ruddy dawn the wild, dark sky, Melanie was up and about, but morning pensioners, the little birds, Filled with rage that was no longer pecked forgotten against the window now on exhibition. by the collar of his jacket with one hand spread there for them regularly, and her white face and tremulous hands and limbs

The past day had been one of long and keen excitement to Melanie Talbot. There was the episode of the despatch-box, and And he did lash him five or six times | the use for which it had been too evidentcruelly, and just then Dick thought his ly adopted; there was Lonsdale's letter uncle's side-tufts made him look more casting so much lurid light on what had been so long an astonishing mystery; her "Hsh!" exclaimed the latter; "how do protracted visit to her chief friends at the vicarage; and lastly, her dreadful "That I could take twice as much anxiety about Dick, consigned an infant more," replied Dick, trembling with rage to her care on their mother's death-bed,

Utter prostration and weariness had Wholesale but at that moment, Bingo, who had been certainly made the poor girl's eyes close the ankle with sharp and vengeful teeth, she had become more wakeful than ever. tearing his flesh and his trousers together | Had Dica come home during the brief interval and stolen softly to his room? Thrice she went thither in the grey dawn, Grimshaw's fury, and he continued to to find the chamber empty and his bed

ter, even when the latter-but no! She thrust aside the thought of peril, or worse, as too horrible for adoption or contemplation.

Dick was certainly gone; but souvenirs of him remained on every hand, particularly his soiled and tattered schooloooks, in many instances with pencilled cartoons of Uncle Grimshaw on the fly leaves, his small, she thought once more, as the old were; but all kinds of game were scarce felt pitiless; but old Bethia contrived to pincenez and side-tuffs appearing con-

She knew that Dick was penniless, and and beyond the range of the hunting- | wistfully at the table when it was set out for each meal, her heart aching as she by whom his necessary wants were being Younger. faint and famishing, while, with all their

The last depressing days, we have said, seem, according to brilliant English preschers, to be a presage of death, when Stoves, the winter has actually come. "The days tre short and the nights long, the sun i low and the lights are dim, the fruit is gathered and the earth is at rest, the flowers are gone, the leaves are fallen, the trees are bare and lift their stripped arms like the bones of death, and every-

thing seems preaching to us of death." So the night began to close again. Where had that poor boy gone, out into the cold, bleak world? she asked herself

He would come back-he must come back! For a second night Melanie did not undress, but lay on her bed waiting and listening alternately at door and window till the gusty autumnal night stole away, and she knew nothing, had learned nothing, but that her loving boy brother had fled from his comfortiess home, with a

sore and bitter heart. "Oh, what can have happened?" she cried, as she wrung her interlaced flagers

"Something must have happened," was the consolation offered by old Betha Barlow, who had heard the tick of the read too many books by Captain Death-watch, of course, and seen a robin beat its little breast against the window

[ To Be Continued Next Week. ]

Electric Motors for Tramcars,

London News. Practical application of electricity to daily drawing of tramcars along the two and one-quarter miles of railroad from any appreciable waste of machinery, and with less than the ordinary run of interregulation cars are the

who has refrained from pressing the new

gine power is contained in accumulators nearly 50 per cent. It is understood to in the streets than the cumbrous steam

Is Hanging a Painless Death?

Chicago Journal. As November 11 approaches I hear, specialist in diseases of the brain and nerto pay the doctors' bills if she caught ing was always and of necessity painless. He even went so far as to say J h ?" inquired his wife. that death by strangulation, where

her watch, and every passing sound-and scratching of the spinal cord produces rattle-snake with rage; his teeth were set few they are in the country-startled her. instantaneous unconsciousness, and and every nerve and fiber were tingling She seemed to be enduring an eternity of where the neck is not broken, and the breath is simply shut off, the rush of un-"My boy-my boy brother-my poor serated blood to the brain produces an almost instantaneous stupor, like that She looked around her Every object produced by opium. He said that all the was familiar, yet it spoke not of home. people who had been partially hanged How sick she felt of everything; how she and resuscitated corroborated these hated them; and so continued to stare out a priori judgments. But these assurinto the darkness with wide-open, mis- ances have never afforded the slight st comfort to people who have had to Stockmen, plader, reflect. Immense leave this world by that route; and there saving in salt and the labor to distribute erable eyes, only starting wildly when comfort to people who have had to saving in sait and there is one very sound reason for believing it. We can supply you with any quantity.

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of the rope above their heads and lifted their whole weight. No hanging in mine,

Right Man in the Right Place.

his feverish brow with a trembling hand-

"Have you spoken to her on this mat-

"Is your affection for her deep and "Sincere!" gasped the young man. "I pledge you my word I haven't slept a wick nor eaten a monthful of victuals for six whole weeks for thinking of her." "George," said the father, after looking at him a moment reflectively, "I think you may come into the family. I

eed a young man of your capabilities to

swear to the circulation of the paper!"

Lonesome, but Comfortable Puck. "D'd you enjoy the opera last night

"Not much," he answered; "I was onesome, and was sorry I was detained at the office so late that I hadn't time to come for you. This going slone to the costing theater is not what it's cracked as to be, my dear "

"No; I suppose not," returned the ady thoughtfully. Still, you must have been very comfor able " she added, "as the two ticket stabs I found in your vest packet gave you the advantage of more than one seat."

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